

That was DAN INOUE. He also had a connection to probably every State in the Union, and Montana was no exception. He always spoke of Mike Mansfield with great passion.

When I was in his office earlier today I noticed on the wall he had a picture of Ted Stevens, LBJ, Warren Rudman, and, of course, Mike Mansfield. On that picture, Mike Mansfield, then-majority leader, had written to my friend Senator DAN INOUE: "With admiration, respect, and affection."

I can't say it any better.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

REMEMBERING JAMIE ELLIS

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, I rise tonight to pay tribute to Jamie Ellis, a beloved member of my staff who passed away on Tuesday, November 27, at the age of 65.

Jamie Ellis served his State and country proudly as a constituent liaison in my office in Tupelo. He handled veterans issues, a role he filled with compassion, ability, and integrity. It was a natural fit. Jamie brought to the position his own background of military service and experience as a volunteer Veterans Service Officer for the local chapter of the Vietnam Veterans of America. He had a deep understanding of the unique circumstances our veterans face, and he worked tirelessly to make their lives better. His help and kindness will not be forgotten.

This ability to work well with others was evident throughout Jamie's career, from his years in public service to his success in business. He knew how to lead—a talent that served him well as president of Ellis Brothers Timber and Wonder Wood Products in Mississippi. Before joining my office, he was a valued independent sales agent for Lawson Products in Illinois.

Jamie deserved the respect that veterans and others bestowed upon him. He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1966 to 1970, spending nearly 3 years in southeast Asia, including 1 year in Vietnam. He then served in the National Guard. In his home community of Saltillo, Jamie was a 32nd-degree Mason and Shriner and member of the Saltillo First United Methodist Church.

Helen Keller once said:

The world is moved along not only by the mighty shoves of its heroes, but also by the aggregate of the tiny pushes of each honest worker.

Jamie was the true and honest worker Ms. Keller describes, and he was a hero to those he helped. There is no doubt his contributions have made the world a better place than he found it.

I am thankful to have known Jamie Ellis and to have had him on my staff. My wife Gayle and I extend our deepest sympathy to his loved ones. To many, Jamie was a fellow veteran and a good friend. To his family, he was a devoted son, husband, father, brother, and grandfather.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his family, especially his wife Judy of 42 years, and their three children and nine grandchildren. He will be truly missed.

Mr. President, I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. UDALL of Colorado). Without objection, it is so ordered.

REMEMBERING DANIEL K. INOUE

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I understand we are in a period of morning business. I wish to offer a few reflections and reminiscence about our dearly departed Senator DAN INOUE.

Yesterday afternoon I came into the Chamber expecting to vote on a matter or two. I was stunned and devastated to hear the news, as were the rest of my colleagues, that we had lost Senator INOUE. When I think of what a Senator is and should be, I think of DAN INOUE.

When I came to the Senate, 10 years ago now, I would say that there were three undisputed giants in this hall. There may have been more, but there were three undisputed giants I think everybody recognized as giants in the Senate. One would be Ted Stevens, one would be Ted Kennedy, and the other would be DAN INOUE. There is something about those three men, those three Senators, that put them in a class by themselves.

Some of it is the force of their personalities, some of it is their legislative accomplishments, some of it is just their ability to get it done; when the chips are down to have the integrity, to understand the vital role that the Senate plays in our Federal system. I think DAN INOUE had all of those traits and he also had character. Character is something that is hard to

describe, it is hard to quantify, hard to define sometimes, but there is no doubt Senator INOUE had character.

Yesterday morning I got off the plane. Like many of us I raced into the office. I noticed I had a big bundle of papers waiting for me to look at. I did not have a chance to look at those, I just grabbed those and plopped them on my desk and I thought I would go deal with those later, and later turned out to be the next morning, which is this morning.

I have been thinking about losing our friend DAN INOUE over the last 12 or 14 hours or so, and I was sitting in my office starting to go through this stack of papers and there at the bottom of the stack I saw a Christmas card that had come from Senator INOUE and his wife. I thought this Christmas card summed up one of the traits that made Senator INOUE so special. It is from DAN and Irene—certainly we offer our prayers and our support for Irene right now—but the photo was taken at the Maui Arts and Cultural Center, "a performing arts facility, providing music, dance and theatrical performances as well as art exhibitions." It is about Hawaiian culture and education and there he is on their Christmas card, promoting Hawaii and never stopping in that quest to make us aware of the special nature of that State and the importance of that State and so many of the qualities of that State.

I look at Senator INOUE's picture on the Christmas card and what I see is that very kind and very generous but also, as our fellow Senators will testify and have testified repeatedly today, that very encouraging face and way of DAN INOUE.

Actually a year or so ago, on my own initiative, I wanted to know a little bit more about him. It is rare to have a Congressional Medal of Honor recipient in your midst, much more rare to work with that person every day. I had the great fortune and extreme pleasure of being on two of Senator INOUE's committees, committees he chaired. He chaired the Commerce Committee for a while and he chaired the Appropriations Committee. I served on both of those with him as chair. In both of those, by the way, I saw the great bipartisan working relationship he had. I want to talk about that again in a moment.

About a year or two ago I thought: I want to know more about Senator INOUE, so I started reading. Of course, you can go to Wikipedia and whatnot, but there are several books available, several resources available where they talk about his life story. Of course, with Senator AKAKA and Senator INOUE, they were both born in the Territory of Hawaii, not the State of Hawaii but the Territory of Hawaii. When you start to read about DAN INOUE's young life, you start to think this is an ordinary, average guy. He is going to grow up and be pretty nondescript. Who knows what he is going to do with the rest of his life? But